

conversion of 2.5 lakh plain looms to automatic looms would take place through funding from Textile Upgradation Fund Scheme.

- (iii) A budget provision for Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme has been raised to Rs. 200 crore for the year 2001-2002 from the present Rs. 50 crore budget allocation for Technology Mission on Cotton has been increased from Rs. 15 crore to Rs. 25 crore.
- (iv) The total budget allocation for the Ministry of Textiles has been enhanced from Rs. 457 crore in 2000-2001 to Rs. 650 crore in 2001-2002.

Welfare of handloom weavers

2857. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that handloom sector is the largest employment provider in the country after agriculture;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details thereof;
- (c) the steps being taken by Government for the welfare of the handloom weavers; and
- (d) the amount released for each of the States in the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to the handlooms census of 1995-96, the sector provides employment to 65.5 lakhs persons, engaged in weaving and allied activities. The State-wise details are given in Statement-I (*See below*)

(c) and (d) The Central Government extends financial assistance under Welfare & Development Schemes for the benefit of handloom weavers, namely, the Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme, Thrift Fund Scheme, Health Package Scheme, Group Insurance Scheme & New Insurance Scheme. The Statement showing the total Central assistance released under these schemes during the last three years is given in Statement-II

Statement-I*State-wise details of persons engaged in weaving*

S.No	States	Weavers	Preparatory	Hired	Rest	Total
1995-96 (PROVISIONAL)						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	228007	147244	30540	84825	490616
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	30134	13319	2521	7499	53473
3.	Assam	1259878	544875	15206	502309	2322268
4.	Bihar	72142	68149	3289	24127	167707
5.	Delhi	2977	427	2924	380	6708
6.	Goa	14	9	0	2	25
7.	Gujarat	21350	23735	3351	9500	57936
8.	Haryana	5076	1992	14066	1676	22810
9.	Himachal Pradesh	47901	11831	2739	2628	65099
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	20773	17341	2404	11329	51847
11.	Karnataka	71238	64500	7166	34658	177562
12.	Kerala	32093	8373	21279	1408	63153
13.	Madhya Pradesh	23012	18230	2851	12013	56106
14.	Maharashtra	38985	26923	5901	9092	80901
15.	Manipur	425580	29019	2310	5178	462087
16.	Nagaland	81827	23152	2558	18691	126228
17.	Orissa	104676	103382	4847	33877	246782
18.	Pondkerry	3155	2254	1654	306	7369
19.	Punjab	5956	3483	878	2843	13160
20.	Rajasthan	37348	20767	7681	6119	71915
21.	Tamil Nadu	319600	182792	65477	39806	607675

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7
22.	Tripura	137669	98628	899	54565	291761
23.	Uttar Pradesh	230204	95899	27581	67000	420684
24.	West Bengal	270911	220652	73584	121107	686254
TOTAL:		3470506	1726976	301706	1050938	655012

Note: Excluding four States viz. Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Meghalaya, Mizorain and Sikkim.

Statement-II

Details of Central Assistance

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the State	Amount Release
1	2	3
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	172.74
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1210.54
3.	Assam	197.20
4.	Bihar	5.93
5.	Gujarat	20.77
6.	Haryana	—
7.	Himachal Pradesh	45.86
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	—
9.	Karnataka	279.67
10.	Kerala	145.57
11.	Madhya Pradesh	248.03
12.	Maharashtra	195.92
13.	Manipur	206.38.
14.	Meghalaya	10.52
15.	Mizorain	13.60
16.	Nagaland	585.17
17.	Orissa	493.90
18.	Pondicherry	—
19.	Punjab	—
20.	Rajasthan	221.78
21.	Tamil Nadu	1597.18
22.	Tripura	65.77
23.	Uttar Pradesh	71.43
24.	West Bengal	136.65
25.	Delhi	—
26.	Sikkim	137.60